(b) and (c). On 15 August, 1992, the Assistant High Commissioner, Birmingham, held a function for the Indian community at his residence in Birmingham to celebrate the Independence Day. About 300 persons of the Indian community attended the function. About 40 minutes after the commencement of the function, about 30 members of the Babbar Khalsa and other Khalistani Organisations, who had joined the gathering in small numbers, shouted anti-Indian and pro-khalistanti slogans broke the flag pole, desecrated the National Flag and trampled on the photograps of Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru, which were on a dias. The police officers who were present at the function, were unable to control the situation, and sought reinforcements. The Khalistanis fled when extra police arrived after about 20 minutes. The Assistant High Commissioner and other staff could not resist the ouslaught of the mob. However, two members of the Indian community Shri Jitendra Kotecha and Shri Kamal Dev Pathak, who were present, protested against the disruption of the function and were roughed up by the Khalistanis.

(d) The High Commission of India, London, took up the matter at a high level with the Gritish Foreign and Home offices, as well as, with the concerned police authorities. The police responded promptly by arresting 2 of the Khalistanis involved. They have since been convicted for causing criminal damage.

2686. (Transferred to 22nd March, 1993)

Nuclear weapon to Pakistan by China

2687. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that China sold at least two dozen new dangerous M-11 missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads to Pakistan;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, whether Government filed any protest against China or with any international agency guarding the interest of nations for peaceful co-existence?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government are aware of the reports on this transaction. Government have also noted the statement of the spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry that these newspaper reports were 'groundless'.

(b) and (c) In discussions with the Chinese Government, Government have emphasised that the supply of sophisticated arms and missiles to Pakistan beyond its legitimate requirements of defence, poses a threat to India's security and is not conducive to the maintenance of peace and stability in South Asia. Government have additionally stressed the need for the avoidance of actions that may negate mutual confidence and understanding between India and China.

Building of Army Headquarters of China in Tibet

2688. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China is biulding a massive Army Headquarters in Tibet consisting of about 43 storey building each containing 40 rooms to house 15000 men:

(b) whether China has already developed a rapid development system to move soldiers into Tibet from inland Chinese provinces at great speed; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Government have seen newspaper reports of construction near Lhasa, to house a Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) headquarters.